

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
DISTRICT OF NEVADA

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AARON SLEDGE,

Plaintiff,

Case No. 3:20-cv-00341-MMD-WGC

ORDER

v.

TACIT, *et al.*,

Defendants.

On June 11, 2020, this Court issued an order directing Plaintiff to file a fully complete application to proceed *in forma pauperis* or pay the full filing fee of \$400 on or before August 10, 2020. (ECF No. 3 at 2.) In addition, on June 11, 2020, this Court issued a second order directing Plaintiff to file a signed amended complaint on or before August 10, 2020. (ECF No. 4 at 2.) The August 10, 2020 deadline has now expired, and Plaintiff has not filed a signed amended complaint, an application to proceed *in forma pauperis*, paid the full \$400 filing fee, or otherwise responded to the Court's orders.

District courts have the inherent power to control their dockets and "[i]n the exercise of that power, they may impose sanctions including, where appropriate . . . dismissal" of a case. *Thompson v. Hous. Auth. of City of Los Angeles*, 782 F.2d 829, 831 (9th Cir. 1986). A court may dismiss an action, with prejudice, based on a party's failure to prosecute an action, failure to obey a court order, or failure to comply with local rules. See *Ghazali v. Moran*, 46 F.3d 52, 53-54 (9th Cir. 1995) (affirming dismissal for noncompliance with local rule); *Ferdik v. Bonzelet*, 963 F.2d 1258, 1260-61 (9th Cir. 1992) (affirming dismissal for failure to comply with an order requiring amendment of complaint); *Carey v. King*, 856 F.2d 1439, 1440-41 (9th Cir. 1988) (affirming dismissal for failure to comply with local rule requiring *pro se* plaintiffs to keep court apprised of address);

1 *Malone v. U.S. Postal Service*, 833 F.2d 128, 130 (9th Cir. 1987) (affirming dismissal for  
2 failure to comply with court order); *Henderson v. Duncan*, 779 F.2d 1421, 1424 (9th Cir.  
3 1986) (affirming dismissal for lack of prosecution and failure to comply with local rules).

4 In determining whether to dismiss an action for lack of prosecution, failure to obey  
5 a court order, or failure to comply with local rules, the Court must consider several factors:  
6 (1) the public's interest in expeditious resolution of litigation; (2) the Court's need to  
7 manage its docket; (3) the risk of prejudice to the defendants; (4) the public policy favoring  
8 disposition of cases on their merits; and (5) the availability of less drastic alternatives.  
9 See *Thompson*, 782 F.2d at 831; *Henderson*, 779 F.2d at 1423-24; *Malone*, 833 F.2d at  
10 130; *Ferdik*, 963 F.2d at 1260-61; *Ghazali*, 46 F.3d at 53.

11 Here, the Court finds that the first two factors, the public's interest in expeditiously  
12 resolving this litigation and the Court's interest in managing the docket, weigh in favor of  
13 dismissal. The third factor, risk of prejudice to Defendants, also weighs in favor of  
14 dismissal, since a presumption of injury arises from the occurrence of unreasonable delay  
15 in filing a pleading ordered by the court or prosecuting an action. See *Anderson v. Air*  
16 *West*, 542 F.2d 522, 524 (9th Cir. 1976). The fourth factor—the public policy favoring  
17 disposition of cases on their merits—is greatly outweighed by the factors in favor of  
18 dismissal discussed herein. Finally, a court's warning to a party that his failure to obey  
19 the court's order will result in dismissal satisfies the "consideration of alternatives"  
20 requirement. See *Ferdik*, 963 F.2d at 1262; *Malone*, 833 F.2d at 132-33; *Henderson*, 779  
21 F.2d at 1424.

22 The Court's order requiring Plaintiff to file an application to proceed *in forma*  
23 *pauperis* or pay the full filing fee on or before August 10, 2020 expressly stated: "IT IS  
24 FURTHER ORDERED that if Plaintiff does not file a fully complete application to proceed  
25 *in forma pauperis* with all three documents or pay the full \$400 filing fee for a civil action  
26 on or before August 10, 2020, the Court will dismiss this action without prejudice for  
27 Plaintiff to refile the case with the Court, under a new case number, when Plaintiff has all  
28 three documents needed to file a complete application to proceed *in forma pauperis*."

1 (ECF No. 3 at 3.) Further, the Court's order requiring Plaintiff to file a signed amended  
2 complaint on or before August 10, 2020 expressly stated: "IT IS FURTHER ORDERED  
3 that, if Plaintiff does not file a signed amended complaint on or before August 10, 2020,  
4 the Court will dismiss this action without prejudice for Plaintiff to refile the case with the  
5 Court, under a new case number, when Plaintiff is able to file a signed amended  
6 complaint. (ECF No. 4 at 2.) Thus, Plaintiff had adequate warning that dismissal would  
7 result from his noncompliance with the Court's orders to file both a signed amended  
8 complaint and an application to proceed *in forma pauperis* or pay the full filing fee on or  
9 before August 10, 2020.

10 It is therefore ordered that this action is dismissed without prejudice based on  
11 Plaintiff's failure to file both a signed amended complaint and an application to proceed  
12 *in forma pauperis*, or pay the full filing fee in compliance with this Court's orders dated  
13 June 11, 2020.

14 The Clerk of Court is directed to enter judgment accordingly and close this case.  
15 No additional documents may be filed in this closed case.

16 DATED THIS 21<sup>st</sup> day of August 2020.

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20 MIRANDA M. DU  
21 CHIEF UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE  
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